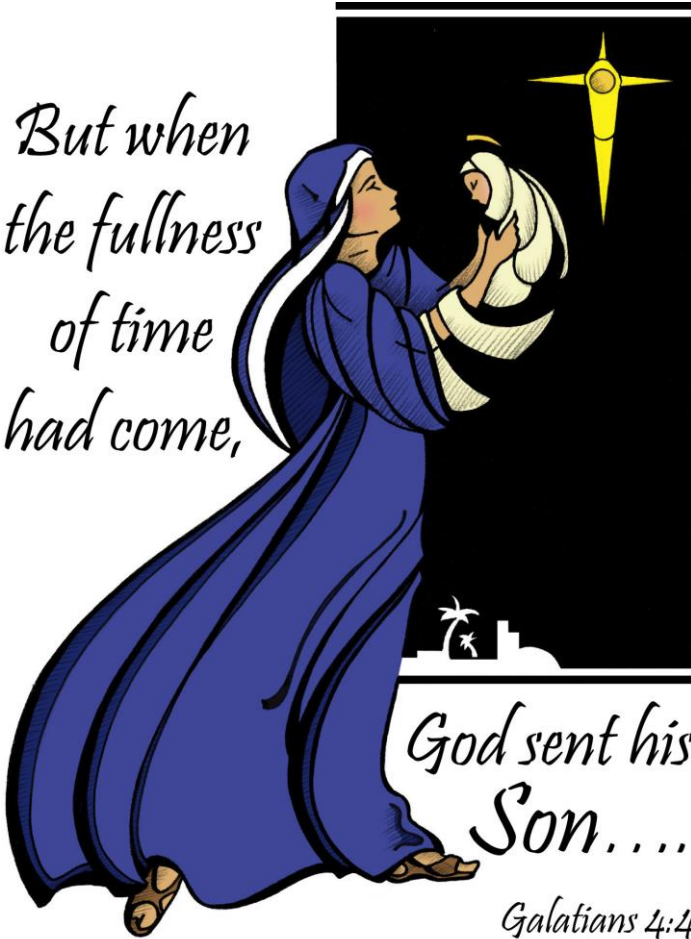


First Sunday after Christmas
December 28, 2025
10:30 a.m.

*But when
the fullness
of time
had come,*



*God sent his
Son....*

Galatians 4:4



MARTIN LUTHER CHAPEL

"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"

444 Abbot Road | East Lansing, MI 48823 | (517) 332-0778
www.martinlutherchapel.org

PRELUDE

INVOCATION *Stand*

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION *(tune for "O Little Town of Bethlehem")*

C O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to
us, we pray; Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be
born in us to - day. We hear the Christ - mas
an - gels The great glad Tid - ings tell; Oh, come to
us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el.

ABSOLUTION *(tune for "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice")*

|-----introduction-----|
P Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice With heart and soul and
voice; Now ye need not fear the grave,
Je - sus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and
calls you all To gain his ev - er - last - ing hall,
C Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

SHARING OF THE PEACE

SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN “Angels from the Realms of Glory” LSB 367

1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
△ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

Refrain

Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
Ye have seen His na - tal star. Come and wor - ship,
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

come and wor - ship; Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, sts. 1–4, alt.; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, Salisbury, 1857, st. 5, alt.
Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–79; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

REGENT SQUARE
87 87 87

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C** **And also with you.**

KYRIE (tune for "Your Little Ones, Dear Lord")

-----introduction-----|

C Oh, draw us whol-ly to you, Lord, And to us
all your grace ac-cord; True faith and love to us im-
part, That we may hold you in our heart.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (tune for "Angels We Have Heard On High")

---introduction---

C An-gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing-ing
Come to Beth-le-hem and see Him whose birth the
o'er the plains, And the moun-tains in re-ply,
an-gels sing; Come, a-dore on bend-ed knee
E-cho-ing their joy-ous strains, Glo- - -
Christ the Lord, the new-born king. Glo- - -
ri-a
ri-a
in ex-cel-sis De- - o. Glo- - -
in ex-cel-sis De- - o. Glo- - -



PRAYER OF THE DAY

L The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

L Let us pray. **L** Almighty God, you have made yourself known in your Son, Jesus, redeemer of the world. We pray that his birth as a human child will set us free from the old slavery of our sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

Sit

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 63:7-9

These verses sing of thanksgiving and praise because of God's "gracious deeds" and "steadfast love" (v.7). Both of these terms are translations of the Hebrew word hesed. It is not a romantic love that grows cold. Rather, this love always treats the other person with unselfish kindness, respect, and loyalty.

R I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD,
the praiseworthy acts of the LORD,
because of all that the LORD has done for us,
and the great favor to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

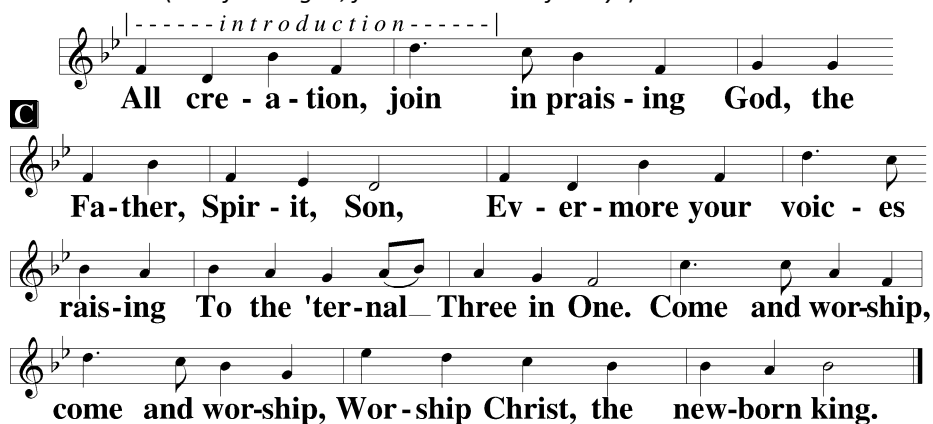
For he said, "Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely";
and he became their savior
in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel
but his presence that saved them;
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

DOXOLOGY (tune for "Angels, from the Realms of Glory")

-----introduction-----|



C All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the
Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es
rais - ing To the 'ter - nal Three in One. Come and wor - ship,
come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

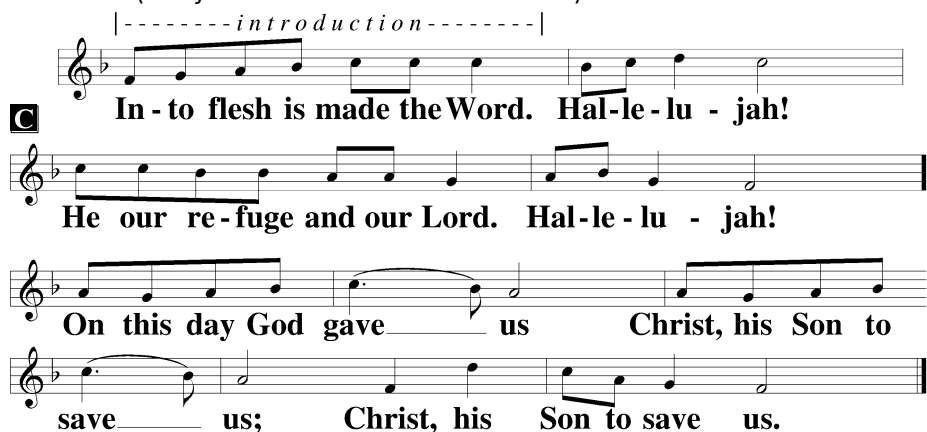
SECOND LESSON Galatians 4:4-7

R When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA (tune for "Let Our Gladness Have No End")

-----introduction-----|



C In - to flesh is made the Word. Hal - le - lu - jah!
He our re - fuge and our Lord. Hal - le - lu - jah!
On this day God gave us Christ, his Son to
save us; Christ, his Son to save us.


HOLY GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel of Matthew, chapter 2, beginning at

verse 13.

 **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Matthew describes the terrible slaughter of young Bethlehem boys as a sign of evil present in the world, and to highlight the relationship between the Old Testament and Jesus' life.

 Now after the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

"A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

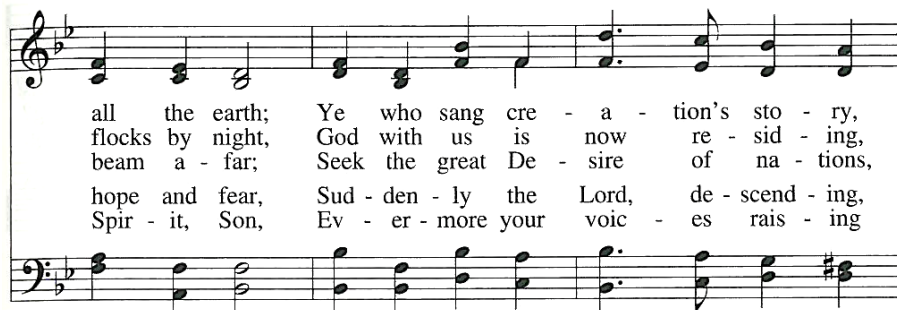
 This is the Gospel of the Lord.  **Praise to You, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

HYMN "Of The Father's Love Begotten" LSB 384



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
 Δ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

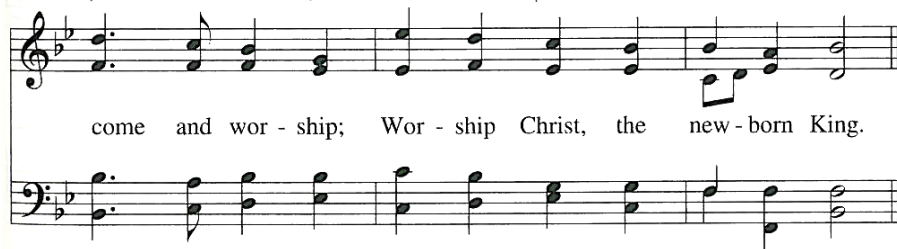


all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
 Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Refrain

Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
 Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
 Ye have seen His na - tal star. Come and wor - ship,
 In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
 To the e - ter - nal Three in One.



come and wor - ship; Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, sts. 1-4, alt.; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, Salisbury, 1857, st. 5, alt.
 Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

REGENT SQUARE
 87 87 87

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,

And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy," to which the congregation responds, "hear our prayer." The prayers conclude:

L Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

OFFERING

**You may give an offering on your smartphone by texting the amount to 517-879-0989 and following the simple prompts.*

OFFERTORY MUSIC

OFFERTORY VERSE (tune and lyrics from "As With Gladness, Men of Old")

-----introduction-----



As they of - fered gifts most rare At thy
cra - dle, rude and bare, So may we with ho - ly joy,
Pure and free from sin's al - loy, All our cost - liest
treasures bring, Christ, to thee our heav'n - ly king.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(tune for "Adeste Fideles")*

Congregation:

Leader: The Lord be with you. And with you, His

Leader: ser - vant. Oh, come, let us lift our hearts un - to

Congregation:

the Lord. With hearts up - lift - ed

Thanks to Him we rend - er: With joy we come be -

fore Him, In grate - ful - ness im - plore Him, With

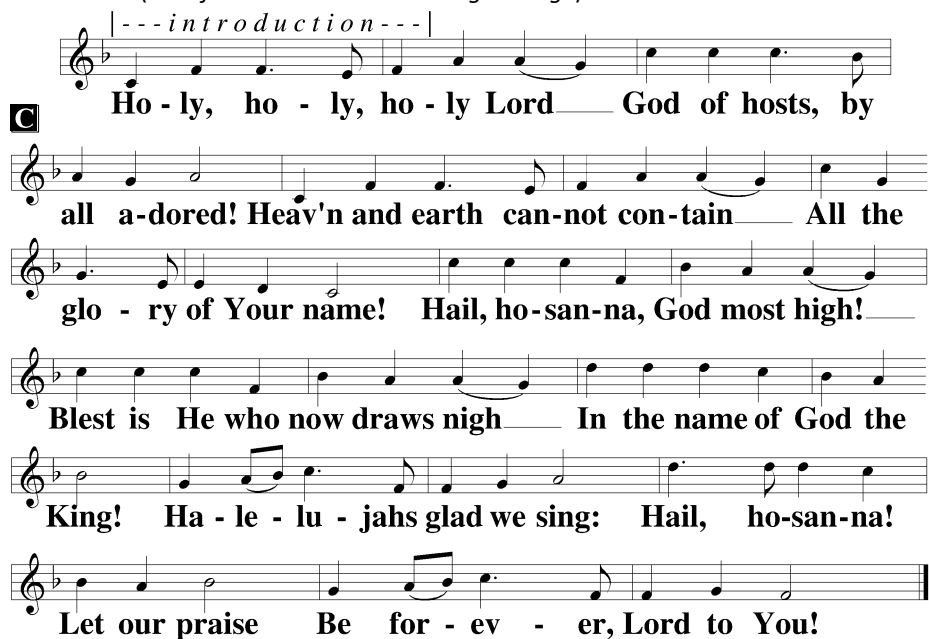
thank - ful hearts a - dore Him ev - - - er - more!

PREFACE

P Thanks and praise be to You, our Father, almighty Creator, merciful Lord, God of promise and fulfillment. Of old Your faithful people waited for the day of Your visitation, manifest at last when the time had fully come and You sent Jesus Christ, Your Son. Having seen His glory, now we wait for the day, when He will come again as Judge and King. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (tune for "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")

|- - - i n t r o d u c t i o n - - - |



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts, by
all a-dored! Heav'n and earth can-not con-tain All the
glo - ry of Your name! Hail, ho-san-na, God most high! —
Blest is He who now draws nigh In the name of God the
King! Ha - le - lu - jahs glad we sing: Hail, ho-san-na!
Let our praise Be for - ev - er, Lord to You!

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

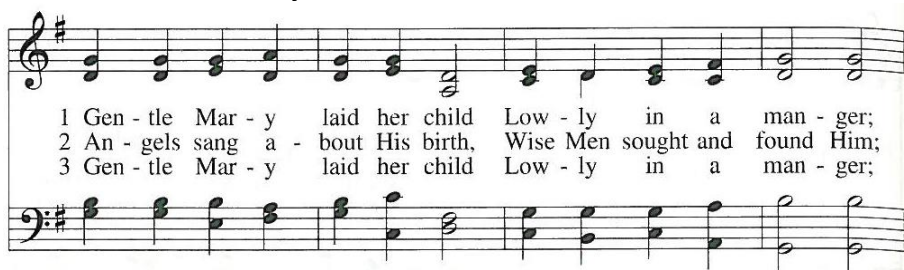
THE LORD'S PRAYER (tune for "It Came Upon The Midnight Clear")

The musical score is written on seven staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. A common time signature 'C' is placed at the beginning of the second staff. The lyrics are: 'Our Fath - er, Lord on heav'n's high throne, Most Yours is the king - dom; un - to You In ho - ly be Your name. Your king - dom come, Your grate - ful love we bow; And Yours the pow'r; and will be done On earth - in heav'n the same. Give let us view Your might - y pres - ence now. The us this day the food we need; For - giv - en glo - ry Yours; Your praise be sung by an - gel may we be In - to temp - ta - tion hosts and all In ev' - ry land, by do not lead; From e - vil set us free. ev' - ry tongue For - ev - er - more! A - men.'

Our Fath - er, Lord on heav'n's high throne, Most
Yours is the king - dom; un - to You In
ho - ly be Your name. Your king - dom come, Your
grate - ful love we bow; And Yours the pow'r; and
will be done On earth - in heav'n the same. Give
let us view Your might - y pres - ence now. The
us this day the food we need; For - giv - en
glo - ry Yours; Your praise be sung by an - gel
may we be In - to temp - ta - tion
hosts and all In ev' - ry land, by
do not lead; From e - vil set us free.
ev' - ry tongue For - ev - er - more! A - men.

THE DISTRIBUTION *You are invited to approach the altar to receive communion elements along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free available.*

HYMN "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" LSB 374



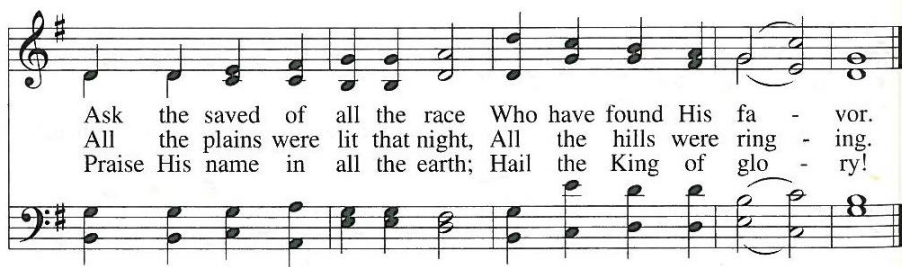
1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
 2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
 3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
 Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
 He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
 Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
 Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
 All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
 Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

Text: Joseph Simpson Cook, 1859-1933

Tune: *Piae Cantiones Ecclesiasticae*, Griefswald, 1582; setting: *Common Praise* (Canada), 1998

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

76 76 D

HYMN "Go Tell It on the Mountain" LSB 388

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry-where;



Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;



Refrain



Be - hold, through-out the heav-ens There shone a ho - ly light.
Rang out the an-gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.



Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work II, 1873-1925, stanzas, alt.
Tune: African American spiritual; setting: Hugh Porter, 1897-1960

GO TELL IT
78 76 76 76

Text and music: Public domain


Luke 2:7-20; Is. 40:9-11

THE BLESSING *Stand*

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C** **Amen.**

THE THANKSGIVING *(tune for "From Heaven Above")*


----- *i n t r o d u c t i o n* -----



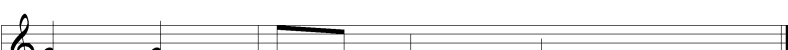
1) Oh, thank the Lord, whose good - ness sure And
2) As His own ser - vants we de - part With
3) Lord, let us show the world Your light; Let
C 4) Glo - ry to God, the Fa - ther, Son, And



stead-fast love fore' - er en - dure! Our eyes have
His sal - va - tion in our heart. His sav - ing
us de - clare Your glo - ry bright, Pro-claim Your
Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One! Oh, thank the




seen, our ears have heard, And we have
pow'r He has made known; His love through
death un - til You come To take your
Lord, whose good - ness sure And stead - fast



tast - ed of His word.
all the earth is shown.
ran - somed ser - vants home.
love fore' - er en - dure!

THE BENEDICTION *(tune for "Adeste Fideles")*



The Lord bless and keep you,
Look with love up - on you, Be gra - cious, and
cause His face to shine with peace!
Glo - ry to Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly
Spir - it! The Sav - ior close be - side us, God's
love from harm to hide us, The Spir - it's pow'r to
guide us ev - - - er - more.

POSTLUDE

Our Confession about Communion

1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine, we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."

3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

a. has been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord and concur in our confession.

b. is not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.
